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www.cosmosfc.com

NEXT HOME GAME

SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER 6.30PM VS SYDNEY OLYMPIC

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Cosmos *vs* South Melbourne

Saturday 2nd December 2000 6.30pm Bruce Stadium

CANBERRA COSMOS F.C.

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National Soccer League 2000/01
Round 8

Volume 4 Number 3

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Chairman's Message

Building momentum carefully and steadily in an organisation is not an easy thing to do. Sometimes, the temptation to overstretch yourself, or to claim you've arrived when you haven't, is almost unbearable. For example, at the start of today's game Cosmos FC occupies the highest position on the table at the most advanced stage of the season in its history. We have scored as many goals as the top team on the ladder. Jon Angelucci is second highest goalscorer in the NSL. Last weekend, in our strong new black strip, we beat the NSL champions. However, we realise that there is still more to be done, both on and off the field, and we're getting on with the job.

On the field, I have watched our boys grow in spirit and cohesion, through the crisis and comedy of an overseas tour in a foreign country (China), through the self doubt of two losses in our first two games, and through the barbed criticisms and disinterest of the national media. Last week one Sydney journalist referred to our players as "very ordinary cattle". I think he deserves a pat on the head, of the "cow" variety. The ladder shows how competitive we are: the players are working together well, and improving with every outing. But at new Cosmos we don't make rash promises about our future: we build the momentum.

Off the field, we also face challenges in trying to maintain a steady momentum. We are exhorted to market this, and do that, but find many of these demands to be beyond our present resources, or peripheral to our strategies. As a whole, I am satisfied with the progress we have made, without being ecstatic! But we need to keep a steady hand on the tiller, and not repeat the mistakes of the past. The criteria for readmission to the NSL present us with a challenge, mostly to keep on top of the process and the paperwork, and it is critical that we get it right. We are working hard to secure our future, and like our team you can expect that we will dedicate maximum effort and strategy to the task.

I have been reported in the press, quite fairly and accurately by Jamie Nicholson, emphasising the importance of you, our valued supporters. Cosmos FC is here, and will stay here, because you enjoy the feeling you get from coming to watch, and because you come back for more. Bring your friends, and bring them often, so we can fill the Stadium and show the doubters that they are very wrong to underestimate our resolve.

We welcome Australia's recent World Club Championship participants, South Melbourne, to Bruce today. They are a proud club with a fine pedigree. I remember playing against them myself, for Canberra City in the late 70s, at the now demolished Middle Park. The blue and white army, frequently 10,000 strong in a stadium bulging at the seams, was an important part of their home ground advantage. I am sure we can build momentum and achieve support in those numbers as well. Enlist your mates into the red and white army, and get them to the ground every time.

Danny Moulis, Chairman, Canberra Cosmos FC

Canberra Cosmos
Founded: 1995

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Football House,
3 Phipps Close,
Deakin, ACT, 2600

Telephone:
(02) 6281 7981

Facsimile:
(02) 6281 7984

E-mail Address:
info@cosmosfc.com

Home Ground:
Bruce Stadium

Chairman:
Daniel Moulis

Head Coach:
Tom Sermanni

Assistant Coach:
Tony Brennan

Manager:
Tony Borgia

Team Doctor:
Dr. Trevor Law

Physiotherapist:
Julian Russell-Jones

Directors:
Damien Beck
Stephen Forshaw
Jeff Konstantinou
Daniel Moulis
Peter Nichols
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Director, Marketing & Media:
Suzanne Jenkins

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Elizabeth Vickers

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Cosmos News - Preview

Today's match against visitors South Melbourne brings to an end a sequence of four away games for the Cosmos. To spend all that time in opponents' territory can be unnerving, but it is a measure of this season's Cosmos that only one of those away games was unproductive, and that was the one against Newcastle.

At a media conference before the Wollongong game Cosmos Captain Robbie Hooker said that it was not unreasonable to expect an average of one point per away game. As it happens Cosmos won 7 points, an average of nearly two per game.

Tom Sermanni has mentioned before that he has a squad that is extremely flexible. Last week's win against Wollongong was achieved without Marcus Phillips and Andy Ravenello. The fact that they will probably be back in the squad today together with the first appearance of Uruguayan international Milton Cortes (clearances permitting) must provide cause for high expectations.

But, as always, there is little room for complacency. Cosmos face a quality side tonight. South Melbourne has a pedigree stretching back to 1959. They are one of only three clubs to have played in every season of the National Soccer League. They have been league champions and have a side containing names, such as Paul Trimboli, John Anastasiadis and Andy Vlahos that are familiar to all Australian football followers.

Canberran Zeljko Susa will be among our visitors this evening. Many will know Zeljko who joined South Melbourne this season from Melbourne Knights.

South Melbourne are playing well, having lost just the once (against Perth but down to ten men) and conceding only 6 goals. South Melbourne is one of three clubs to score most goals (13) so far this season. The other two are Cosmos and Sydney Olympic.

South Melbourne lie third in the league. Last week they drew one all with Parramatta, a side Cosmos defeated 3-2 on 11 November.

The Cosmos are also playing well. The squad is balanced, talented, committed and hard-working, a combination not achieved since re-joining the National League until this season. Tonight should produce a feast of attacking football, goals to savour, and a good result for Cosmos.

John Bonnett

Do you eat to live or live to eat?

One of the major cultural changes that have occurred within Australia in the last 30 years is the importance we place on diet.

We have seen different cuisine come in and out of fashion but one truth remains, we have become a country that lives to eat rather than eats to live.

No one venue expresses this better than the Hellenic Club of Canberra. The range of food options available to our members is diverse enough to satisfy the most discerning of diners.

One of the many benefits of being a member of the Hellenic club is your $5.50 membership fee goes towards ensuring that we can offer you this entire range of dining options at reasonable prices, making the Hellenic club an everyday dining option.

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Sermanni Says...

For 25 minutes in the second half against Wollongong I believe we played some of the best football I have seen since my involvement with the club. It was extremely pleasing from a coaching point of view to see this development, particularly in regard to our control and quality use of the football, while our patience in attack was perhaps the best its ever been.

The Wolves are a tough team to beat at any time, but to defeat them 3-2 away from home is a remarkable achievement.

The most exciting thing about the result is that the players know within themselves there is plenty of room for improvement. We're still beginning our matches hesitantly, and at times in the first half I thought we played quite poorly, but as the match wore on the players became sure of their ability and really rose to their potential.

We had many outstanding contributors against Wollongong, but the performance of Jon Angelucci deserves a mention. I've known Jon for six or seven years now, and I don't think he has ever played such brilliant football. In previous years Jon has played more of a fringe role at other clubs, but he was asked to take on added responsibility this season, and so far, he has risen and accepted that challenge.

Currently he is among the leading scorers in the league, and not only did he score two second half goals on Friday night but he played a leading role in setting up Alex Castro's equaliser.

Credibility is a particularly hard thing to earn in football, but I think we're well on our way to gaining some respect. The key to maintaining credibility is consistency, so it's important that we can continue to be competitive in each match we play. It's no good having a morale boosting win over the defending champions one week, and losing 5-0 the next, you've got to continue to perform, so that will be our goal over the next few weeks. If I'm confident at the end of a game that we have performed to our ability, regardless of the result, then I'll know we're on the right track.

At the moment, I don't want to be lured into thinking about where we might stand at the end of the season. I'm certainly not entertaining any thoughts of a finals appearance, that would be getting carried away. For the moment I just want to continue being competitive.

We gladly return home this week after a long period on the road and we're looking forward to continuing our good form in front of our fans. If previous encounters are any indication, the match against South Melbourne has all the makings of a classic battle and we're hoping to attract a really strong crowd tonight.

Over the last month or so, opponents and supporters haven't expected much from us, but for the first time in a long while we'll be entering a match with high expectations.

We're well aware that fans are keen to see our improvement first hand, but I'm sure the players won't be affected by the extra pressure.

Tom Sermanni
Head Coach, Canberra Cosmos FC

Leuko

Sports Injury Prevention and Treatment

Football Facts

The usual contributor to this column, Chris Conti, left Australia on 20 November with the Australian Schoolboys to tour New Caledonia and Vanuatu. He returns next Tuesday 5 December. As he said, "Tough eh?"

So don't miss our next home game on 16 December when we play Sydney Olympic. Not only will it be a great match but you can also find out all about the Australian Schoolboys tour and why Chris Conti had such a hard time.

In the meantime Gordon Dunster has highlighted the considerable difference one of this season's changes to the bylaws of the game is making to matches. It's a change which Chris Conti referred to in our first home game program, namely, that once a goalkeeper has the ball in his hands, he/she has just six seconds to release it. If the goalkeeper doesn't release it within six seconds, then an indirect free kick inside the penalty area is awarded.

Gordon Dunster points out that this change in the bylaws is doing much to produce more attacking football. With just six seconds to spare goalkeepers can be seen dashing to the edge of their area to get rid of the ball while at the same time attackers and defenders are doing their best to get to the other end of the park to receive it.

If a goalkeeper makes a save, no matter how difficult, and has the ball in his/her hands, it's still six seconds to get rid of it from what may be a crowded area and from being flat on the ground.

It just keeps getting better!

John Bonnett

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National Youth Team Lists

1 Rade Kosanovic
2 Aidan Griffith
3 Dom Labutte
4 Luke Morgan
5 Ryan O'Grady
6 Phillip Yarnold
7 Stephen Kemp
8 Daniel Byrne
9 Daniel Raad
10 Brent Turner
11 Adam Williams
12 Yosef Zamora
13 Daniel Aliffi
14 Daniel Camara
15 Paul Ivanic
16 Lee Rupil
17 Goran Veljanovski
18 Michael McKenna

2 David Chilcott
3 Robert D'Arrigo
4 Srecko Mitrovic
5 Adrian Papaluca
6 Daniel Rohrer
7 Jeff Bugallo
8 Saul Santilli
9 Alex Brosque
10 Joseph Bastac
11 Nicholas Tavouktsis
12 James Chircop
13 Adrian Catanzariti
14 Michael Arena
15 Rodney Madigan
16 Ryan Manuel
17 Evan Graham
18 Chris Screpis
19 Andrew Lescesin
20 Andrew Karabetsos
21 Mende Gelevski
Pat Faga
Eduardo Hanzic

Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted. All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game. Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time. The setting alight of, or the igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares, is strictly prohibited. Offenders will be arrested and charged.

Match Day Team Lists

1 Angelo Konstantinou
3 Toplica Popovich
4 Andy Ravanello
5 Nic Purdue
6 Naoki Imaya
7 Mark Hagger
8 David Milin
9 Alex Castro
10 Jon Angelucci
11 David Arranz
12 Milton Cortes
13 Shane Lyons
14 Andy Rakic
15 Marcus Phillips
16 Ilija Prenzoski
17 Robbie Hooker
18 Brad Scott
19 Hiroshi Miyazawa
20 Barney Smith

Head Coach: Tom Sermanni
Assistant Coach: Tony Brennan

1 Michael Petkovic
2 Steve Iosifidis
3 Fausto De Amicis
4 Mehmet Durakovic
5 Robert Liparoti
6 David Clarkson
7 Steve Panopoulos
8 Vaughan Coveny
9 Paul Trimboli
10 Con Boutsianis
11 John Anastasiadis
12 Richie Alagich
13 Andy Vlahos
15 Goran Lozanovski
16 Zeljko Susa
17 Rade Culibrk
18 Elias Demourtzides
19 Patrick Kinsorbo
20 Chris Jones

Head Coach: Michael Petersen
Assistant Coach: Jeff Olver

The City Club

CONGRATULATIONS

to The City Club Cosmos Man of the Match Winner against Melbourne Knights, Mark Hagger.

Come to the City Club after the game on their free bus and show your ticket for a complimentary Tooheys

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Hogg, Lamond, Farina, Kulscar, Zelic, Milosevic, Grella, Wilson, Simunic, and many others. Youth players of international quality who have come from Canberra or played for Canberra at National Soccer League level. All have represented Australia, and many have gone on to overseas clubs. Today sees the second foray onto the home pitch for our UC Youth Cosmos players. These players are Canberra's best youth footballers and Cosmos will be supporting their development every step of the way. These talented footballers also need the support of Cosmos fans and the local community to continue along their path to football fame and fortune!

Sponsoring one of our youth team players will bring you into the Cosmos family and give you a strong sense of pride, that you are developing Canberra's stars of tomorrow. Who knows, your sponsored player may be a future Manchester United goalkeeper, or Inter Milan forward.

Take your place as the sponsor of our talented young soccer players with a Cosmos Star of the Future package and receive the following benefits:

- Proud reference to you or your nominated business, as the player's sponsor in the match day program;
- Special attendances by the player at corporate get-togethers or employee functions;
- Two adult season passes, and entry to our exclusive after-match function;
- Autographed photos of your sponsored player in recognition of your support;

Participation in the program requires an investment of $750 (including GST), which we are sure you will agree is money well spent as an investment in Canberra's soccer future.

For further information on a Star of the Future package, please contact Suzanne Jenkins at the Cosmos office on 6281 7981.

We salute the following Cosmos player sponsors for 2000/01:

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	Child	**$50**
	Family	**$220**

Contact Liz Vickers at the Cosmos office on 6281 7981 to order your pass.

National Youth League - UC Youth Cosmos

The UC Youth Cosmos have now played five games resulting in a win, a draw and three losses. Greg Welsh spoke with coach Tony Brennan about the season so far.

GW .A mixed bag of results for the team so far this season, Tony.

TB: We're on the improve, obviously, since the beginning of the season. Injuries and exams haven't helped, but there's a fairly big squad. Realistically, players that probably wouldn't be getting much of a run early in the season have been getting full games. So everyone's been given a go to prove themselves at that level.

GW. Apart from results on the field, one of your goals at the beginning of the season was to fully support the senior Cosmos squad. How is that aspect going?

TB: I think that's been tremendous-I think Tommy would say that as well. Having the support of the players-that he's playing now that have come through from injury or haven't fit into the squad previously-they've been able to play full games or half games with us in National League match conditions, albeit Youth. So Angelo's nice and fit now after his injury, we've had Shane Lyons play for us, we've had Andy Rakic and Brad Scott. I obviously think that we're going to get more now that he's signed Cortes and the guys are coming back from injuries, such as Marcus Phillips. I thought it might have been a problem, the older boys coming down thinking "I've been dropped" or whatever, but they've been great.

GW. Marconi beat the Youth Cosmos 3-0 in your first game of the season. This week you play their second side, are you confident you can turn things around?

TB: We played a Marconi team chock full of internationals and this time we're probably playing a younger side, probably more to our level, which we're looking forward to. But we do owe them a flogging. You look at the 3-0 scoreline, but gee we played well second half. It was 3-0 first half and we came back and could have scored a couple as well. I was more than happy with how they went.

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The Professional Advantage

Supporters Club

Well, it's been a while but we're finally back at Bruce - and we're very happy!!! What great games against Parramatta, and our arch-rivals Wollongong. And the other games weren't bad either. Thanks to all supporters who attended the away games, both on the Supporters bus and/or other means. I think we all had a pretty good time on the road!

Our next bus trip, which will be to the match against Sydney United at Edensor Park, is on Sunday 10 December 2000. A low price of $25, or $10 for children under 15, will entitle supporters to a return seat on our luxury coach. Cosmos Supporters Club members will receive a reduction on the price of the fare. For more details or to book your place please contact Andrew McDonald on (02) 6266-2329 (w) or Wilhelmina Kemperman on (02) 6295-9848 (h); or E-mail: cosmosbus@yahoo.com. Alternatively, you can talk to the Supporters Club committee members at Bruce Stadium home games at half time.

Watch this column or the Supporters Club page at the Canberra Cosmos website, www.cosmosfc.com for details on future away trips. You can also visit Andy's Totally Unofficial Shrine to the Canberra Cosmos FC, at www.geocities.com/canberracosmos/ for additional Cosmos information.

Supporters Club membership for this season is still available. The cost is just $15 for adults, $10 for juniors under 17 and $25 for families. The fee entitles members to a newsletter "Cosmic Kick", entry into 2 tipping competitions with prizes, an invitation to a pre-Christmas function, a discount on Cosmos away bus trips and a discount of 50% on the "Canberra Cosmos Supporters Anthem" CD by Ice Cream Headache.

Members can also enter the draw for two bus tickets for away trips and a draw for a ball signed by Cosmos players. Cheques and money orders payable to Canberra Cosmos Supporters Club can be posted to: Canberra Cosmos Supporters Club, PO Box 4136, KINGSTON, ACT 2604. Inquiries can be directed to Supporters Club President, Peter Kunz, via E-mail at: plkunz@ozemail.com.au or by telephone on (02) 6281-2900 (ah).

Cosmos supporters, Ice Cream Headache, have announced that they will be going their separate ways in February 2001. Their former number one single and lasting tribute to their favourite football team, the "Canberra Cosmos Supporters Anthem" is now the last recorded work by the band.

Cosmos merchandise returns to Bruce Stadium tonight. Keep an eye out for the merchandise table where you can buy some great supporters gear. With Christmas now a little over three weeks away, you may find just the Christmas present you're looking for.

Thanks to everyone who signed our petition to have the NSL highlights shown at an earlier time. Thanks also go to Kym Smith and Jamie Nicholson of the Canberra Times for their coverage of our petition to Channel 7 and Prime TV, two weeks ago.

Well, we've waited and we've travelled. Now at last our heroes return to Bruce Stadium. Best wishes to Canberra Cosmos in tonight's match against South Melbourne.

Darren M. Churchill (Tel: 0412 196-473)

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Autographs

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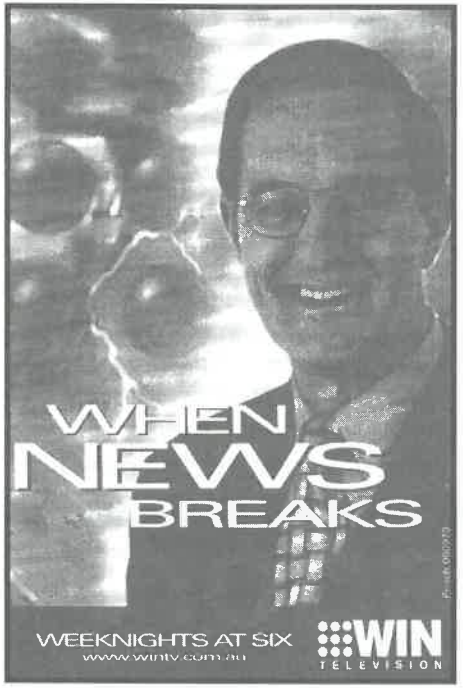
After the game, the players will be available next to the Cosmos dugout to sign autographs



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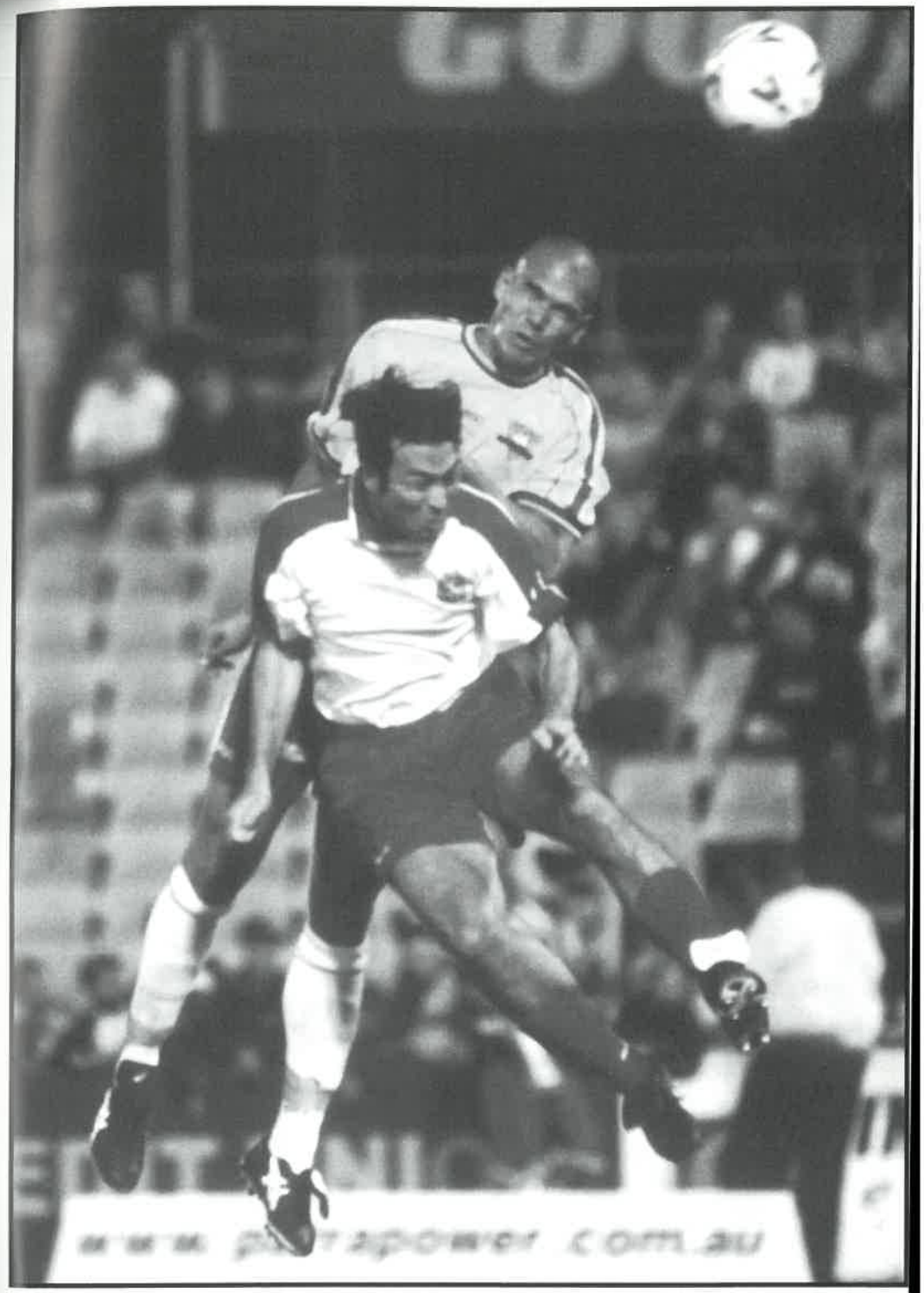
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